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F.A. CUP 2ND ROUND

**NORTHWICH VICS
V
WIGAN ATHLETIC**

SATURDAY, 15th DECEMBER 1979

KICK-OFF 3.00 P.M.

Official Souvenir Programme 20p

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FROM THE BOARDROOM

Today's game is the culmination of one of the most arduous Cup runs in our long history, this being our tenth game to date and hopefully not the last.

Our players deserve all the support you can give them this afternoon, and you can rest assured that they will respond with a 100% performance.

Our welcome visitors and friends, Wigan Athletic, are a club to be admired. Their persistence in applying to become a Football League club has been justified by the size of their average home attendances (7,531 this season). The Directors of Wigan can be proud that they carried the northern non-League banner into the League and let us hope that their example will be followed by other northern clubs.

Today's game is sure to be full of excitement and tension. I hope that all spectators enjoy the match whatever the result, and accept the outcome of all decisions during the game in the right spirit. We all want our team to win but the main thing is to achieve victory in a manner to be proud of.

Finally, I would like to thank all our supporters who have spent many hours over the past two weeks helping the club to carry out the work necessary to stage today's game.

DEREK NUTTALL
Chairman

FROM THE MANAGER

F.A. Cup fever comes to the Drill Field today in the form of Wigan Athletic the latest newcomers to the Football League.

I take this opportunity to wish them well in Division 4, and in higher spheres in seasons to come, as I regard them as ambassadors of non-League football. I feel sure that the Football League must be impressed by their facilities, their playing standards and especially their support.

Being paired with Wigan takes away the advantage of having a League club coming to face the unknown, since Wigan know all about Vics and non-League football. Wigan impressed me when I watched their replay versus Blackpool, But I also have some useful players for them to worry about.

What advantage we do have over the Latics is the Drill Field atmosphere and the vocal support generated by the growing band of Vics' supporters. So I plead with you all to get behind the lads, give them a boost and enjoy the game.

Incidentally, I recently dreamt about today's match. It turned out to be a real thriller with plenty of goals, no crowd trouble, plenty of singing and a place for Vics in the 3rd Round with the big boys.

Dreams have a habit of coming true — sometimes.

RAY WILLIAMS

MAN OF THE MATCH

We are indebted to Burtonwood Brewery Co. (Forshaw's) Ltd. who have supplied a trophy for the Man of the Match. The trophy will be awarded to the player, of either side, who the press consider to have made the greatest contribution to the game.

The trophy will be presented by Mrs. Lynn Rafferty, wife of Vics' Director, Jim Rafferty, who is also an Accountant at Burtonwood.

WIGAN ATHLETIC – A HISTORY OF F.A. CUP SUCCESS

During the 82 years of football at Springfield Park the ground has been the home of four clubs. The first, Wigan County, was liquidated only 3 years after its formation in 1897, but managed to establish Wigan's F.A. Cup tradition, losing 1–0 at Man. City. Wigan Town came and went almost as quickly. In 1920 Wigan Borough was formed and were founder members of the 3rd Division North in 1921. The first of many Cup runs saw Wigan progress to the 4th Round in 1923 before losing to Q.P.R. Cup fever struck again in 1928 when Borough lost a 3rd Round tie to Sheffield Wednesday. A rapid decline during the Depression resulted in liquidation, the club playing its last League game on 24th October 1931 when they lost 5–0 at Wrexham.

On 9th May 1932, however, Wigan Athletic was born out of a public meeting and Springfield Park was purchased for the princely sum of £2850. Despair follows this success when applications to join the Cheshire League and the Football League were rejected. Fortunately a late resignation allowed them to join the Cheshire League. In the following season Wigan won the League and retained the title in 1934/35 as well as progressing to the 3rd Round of the Cup. Carlisle (6–1, H) and Torquay (3–2, H) were defeated before Milwall won 4–1 at Wigan. A hat-trick of League titles was completed in 1936.

After the war Wigan's colours were changed from red to blue, this being the only strip available from the local sports shop. Athletic finished at the foot of the table and amazingly failed to gain re-election to the Cheshire League. They joined the Lancashire Combination and won the Championship in their first season. Wigan continued to justify their annual League application with Championship wins in 1950/51, 52/53 and 53/54, the latter being emphasised with another Cup run. After beating Scarborough (4–0, H) and Hereford (4–1, H), Newcastle were held 2–2 at St. James' Park in the 3rd Round, but won the replay 3–2.

The stagnation of the late 50's was relieved with entry to the Cheshire League in 1961 but honours were lacking until the League/League Cup double of 1965. The 65/66 Cup campaign saw Doncaster fall (2–2, A; 3–1, H) before Chester eliminated Athletic in the 2nd Round. Cup progress in the following year was limited to the 1st Round when Tranmere won through after a 1–1 draw at Prenton Park. 1969 saw an epic battle against Port Vale who won a 2nd replay at Old Trafford (1–0 a.e.t.) after drawing 1–1 at Wigan and 2–2 at Vale Park in the 1st Round.

The N.P.L. Championship in 70/71 was accompanied by progress to the F.A. Cup 3rd Round when 46,212 people saw a tremendous match at Maine Road where City won 1–0. South Shields (1–1, A; 2–0, H) and Peterborough (2–1, H) were earlier victims. 1971 also produced Cup heroics, Halifax being eliminated (2–1, H) before defeat at Wrexham by 4–0.

Wigan reached Wembley in 1973 but Scarborough dashed their Trophy hopes, winning 2–0 a.e.t.

Johnny King led the Latics to their 2nd N.P.L. title in 74/75, along with the now customary giant killing act, beating Shrewsbury 2–0 after a 1–1 draw at Gay Meadow. Mansfield proved to be stiffer opposition in the 2nd Round, winning 3–1 after a 1–1 draw at Springfield Park.

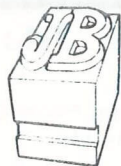
After a period of rebuilding in the mid 70's Ian McNeills' side gained the Runners-Up spot in the N.P.L. in 1977/78 and this, combined with yet another Cup run, finally ended Wigan's League frustrations. After eliminating York (1–0, H) and Sheffield Wednesday (1–0, H), a tremendous display in their 4–0 defeat at Birmingham in the 3rd Round finally swung the balance.

At the 35th attempt Wigan were in the League, defeating Southport in a secondary ballot at the Football Leagues A.G.M. Since that time Wigan have proved worthy of their new status and today they bring all their F.A. Cup experience to the Drill Field determined that they will not become the victims of their own speciality; the giant-killing act.

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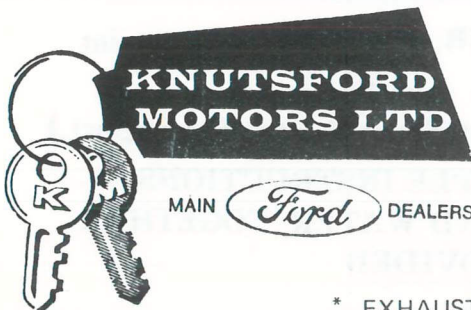
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BACK ROW: Frank Sromek, Steve Wilshaw, Colin Williams, Dave Ryan, Ken Jones, Keith Braithwaite, Ray Williams (Manager), Ron Reddy (Trainer).

FRONT ROW: Albie Nieman, Geoff Forshaw, Terry Bailey, Bob Ritchie (Captain), Paul Mayman, Graham Smith.

DAVID RYAN (GOALKEEPER)

Only 22 years old yet in his 3rd season with the club. He joined Manchester United as an apprentice but his career was hampered by injury. After 4 years at Old Trafford he moved to Southport before joining the Vics.

BOB RITCHIE (DEFENDER)

Club Captain. Signed from Stafford Rangers in the close season, after nine seasons at Marston Road. Bob is an experienced full back who captained Rangers' F.A. Trophy-winning side last year. Lives in the Potteries.

ALBIE NIEMAN (DEFENDER)

A strong central defender who signed for the Vics in 1975 after playing more than 400 games for South Liverpool. Player of the Year 3 years ago, he is now aged 30 and lives in St. Helens.

JEFF FORSHAW (DEFENDER)

A central defender who is particularly strong in the air, Geoff was signed from Stalybridge Celtic during the summer. Previously with Winsford United and Portmadog. Lives on the Wirral.

KEN JONES (DEFENDER)

A skillful central defender who is the club's longest serving player, now in his 11th season. Player of the Year last year, Ken was signed from Ellesmere Port but began his career with West Bromwich Albion. Lives in Birkenhead. 32 years old.

DAVID HALL (MIDFIELD)

25 years old, in his second season at the Drill Field after being transferred from Matlock Town. Dave is our 'dead-ball' specialist. Lives in Sheffield. Has recently returned to the side after a two month lay off recovering from a broken leg.

PAUL MAYMAN (MIDFIELD)

21 years old. Signed in July from Nantwich Town where he played for three seasons. Began his career with Crewe Alex where he was voted Player of the Year while only 18.

TERRY BAILEY (MIDFIELD)

31 years old, also in his second season with Vics. Previous non-League experience with Stafford Rangers and League experience with Port Vale. Lives in Stoke.

GRAHAM SMITH (FORWARD)

29 years old. Signed from Winsford Utd. only 9 days before the season began. A prolific goalscorer in the Cheshire League Graham has already established himself as leading scorer.

DAVID O'NEIL (FORWARD)

25 years old, signed from Macclesfield Town during the close season. Previously with Horwich R.M.I. but began his career with Huddersfield Town. Can also operate in midfield.

FRANK SROMEK

27 years old. Signed in October from Telford Utd. for whom he scored 15 goals last season. 6'-3" Tall. He used his height advantage to good effect.

JIM COLLIER (FORWARD)

27 years old. A utility player equally at home in midfield, backfour or up front. Signed from Stockport County 4 years ago. Now lives and works in Northwich.

THE VIEWS FROM THE PRESS BOX

THE BITER BIT

No matter who wins this intriguing F.A. Cup tie it will certainly be a case of 'the biter bit'. Both Vics and today's visitors, Wigan Athletic, have forged themselves Cup reputations which made this evenly poised encounter all the more fascinating.

A measure of Wigan's progress since the clubs last met is reflected in that today they run the unaccustomed risk of becoming giantkilling victims after many years as non-league Cup underdogs. Only two seasons ago, during their last campaign as a semi-professional club, they bagged two Football League scalps, beating both York City and Jack Charlton's Sheffield Wednesday, by 1-0 scorelines, before bowing out 4-0 to First Division Birmingham City. Now the pendulum has swung as they face the pressure of starting favourites.

But Vics face equal pressure for they are unusual underdogs. The standard they set themselves three seasons ago in the Cup, when they defeated Rochdale before shattering Peterborough and Watford here at the Drill Field, means many fans will expect another Football League sacrifice. Today I won't venture to forecast which biter will end up with the teeth marks. However I'll stick my neck out as far as predicting that the team which scores first will win!

DAVE FOX

Northwich Chronicle

MEMORABLE CUP CLASHES

Past cup-ties between Vics and Wigan have been the talk of many a pub and club this week and programme editor Pat Champion has invited me to refresh the memory and put a few facts straight.

As I have detailed in my own newspaper the last time the clubs met in the FA Cup was as long ago as 1937-38, when Latics won a 4th qualifying round tie here 1-0, their scorer being Grange, with, according to the Guardian: "the Visitors' only shot at goal".

Next cup clashes of significance were the two legs of the NPL Cup final in 1972-3, when Vics won the only trophy during 11 seasons' membership. Terry Bradbury's team won 1-0 (Webber) at Springfield Park, before forcing a 2-2 draw at the Drill Field, when Ellis scored both their goals, King and Rogers replying. (Incidentally, Northwich did win another NPL pot, when they were awarded the little known runners-up cup for finishing so close to champions Boston United in 1976-7).

Most recent big games between the old rivals were in the FA Trophy, both verdicts going to 'Latics'. In 1974-5, they won 4-2 here in a thrilling 2nd round game which Vics were winning 2-0 at one stage. The gate of 3,810 which provided Northwich's first-ever £1,000 pay day will be completely eclipsed to-day.

The following year, Wigan came, saw and conquered again, this time by 2-0, in the first round, the inseparable King and Rogers again the marksmen.

So if you believe in good order and balance, it's Vics' turn to-day.....

MIKE TALBOT-BUTLER

(Sports Editor Northwich Guardian)

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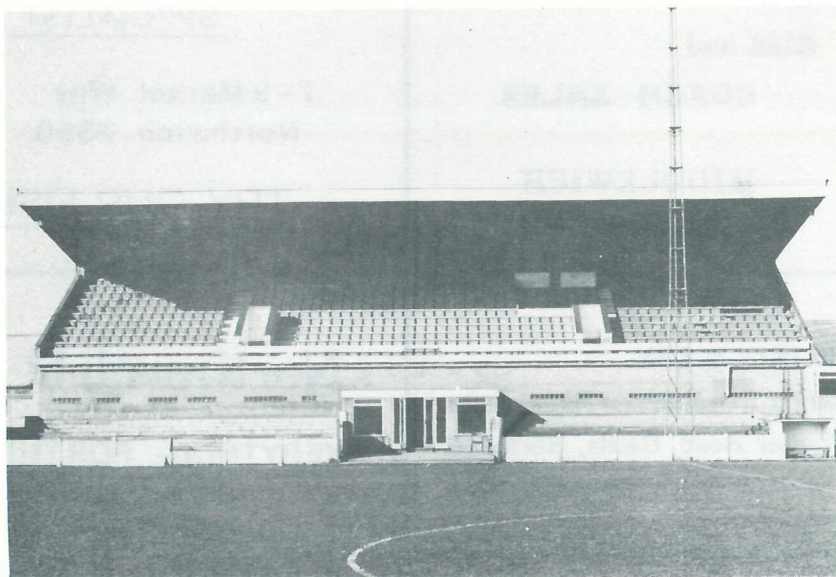
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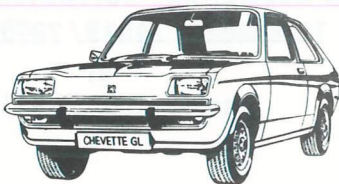
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The Directors wish to thank the following for their generous support and sponsorship which has helped to make this special occasion such a success:—

- MRS. P. HARROP** — wife of Vics Director, John Harrop, for the donation of the matchball.
- UMBRO LTD.** — for donating the superb new strip in which Vics are playing today.
- BURTONWOOD — BREWERY** for the Man of the Match Award and for providing liquid refreshment for the players, officials and V.I.P's.
- MIKE TALBOT-BUTLER** (Northwich Guardian) for their support and assistance in producing this programme.
- DAVE FOX** (Northwich Chronicle)
- JACK SUDWORTH** — Wigan's Commercial Manager for his co-operation in providing a mass of information from which my notes are compiled.
- NEVILLE ABBERLEY,**
HUGH BUDGEN and the staff at Billington's for their co-operation in the production of the programme.
- F.W. WOOLWORTH**
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- THE PURPLE PHANTOMS** — a Scout band from Warrington for entertaining us this afternoon.

All the voluntary workers, too numerous to mention individually, who have worked so hard on the ground and who are supplementing our staff this afternoon.

Finally, our thanks to all our supporters, voluntary staff and sponsors who support us in various ways throughout the year and without whom this occasion would not be possible.

FIXTURES

Telford United v Vics -- APL Cup Quarter-Final Replay
Wednesday 19th December K.O. — 7.30p.m.
Subject to F.A. Cup Replay.

Vics v Wealdstone — APL
Saturday 22nd December K.O. — 3.00 p.m.

REPLAY ARRANGEMENTS

Should today's match be drawn the replay will be played at Springfield Park on Tuesday. Although the kick-off has been fixed at 7.45p.m. we would recommend that our fans get there as early as possible. At Wigan's recent replay against Blackpool many fans did not get through the gates until well after the kick-off.

Wigan have informed us that entry to the stand will be by **TICKET ONLY** and details of ticket arrangements will be announced at the end of this afternoon's match, if necessary.

Pay-gates will be in operation for all other parts of the ground.



- BACK ROW:—** Noel Ward, Ian Purdie, Derek Brownbill, John Brown, Bob Ward, Kevin Smart, Mike Quinn, John McDermott.
- CENTRE ROW:—** Duncan Colquhoun (Physiotherapist), Joe Hinnigan, Jeff Wright, George Urquhart, Nigel Hart, Neil Davids, John Curtis, Frank Corrigan, Peter Houghton, Dave Fretwell, Kenny Banks (Trainer).
- FRONT ROW:** Tommy Gore, Alan Crompton, John Wilkie, Ian McNeill (Manager), Mr. A.O. Horrocks (Chairman), Micky Moore, Mark Wignall, David Glenn.

JOHN BROWN (GOALKEEPER)

John saw service with Preston North End and Stockport County before joining Wigan Athletic. With 155 league appearances behind him, he gives stability and experience to a Wigan defence which is noted for its difficulty to break down.

DAVID FRETWELL (DEFENDER)

David made 253 appearances for Bradford City before joining Wigan on a free transfer in the early part of last season. A cool, efficient professional, who does a magnificent job without any fuss at the heart of the Wigan defence.

JOE HINNIGAN (DEFENDER)

23 years of age and with 44 very promising Football League appearances behind him, Joe is definitely a player to watch for the future. He has already attracted the attention of several league clubs, who are no doubt impressed by his ability to snatch vital goals as well as his cool defensive play.

TOMMY GORE (MIDFIELD)

Player of the year in the eyes of Wigan supporters for the past two seasons and runner-up in last year's Fourth Division Player of the Year competition, Tommy is a vital cog in Wigan's team play. Loves to attack, and can bring the crowd to its feet with his forceful shooting.

COLIN METHVEN

27 years old signed recently from East Fife for a record fee. A strong, hard-tackling defender who likes to move forward. Has a habit of poaching vital goals.

FRANK CORRIGAN (MIDFIELD)

Frank made 50 appearances last season in Division Four, to add to the wealth of non-league experience gained principally with Northwich Victoria and the Wigan club. Always at his best when pushing forward in support of the attack.

NEIL DAVIDS (DEFENDER)

Big Neil has seen service with a number of clubs at Football League level, and has become a popular figure with the Wigan fans following his arrival from Swansea City last year. Strong, rock like figure. Neil brings determination to the defence. 36 league appearances to date.

JEFF WRIGHT (MIDFIELD)

An ever-present, with 51 appearances in the 1978-1979 season, Jeff has been a consistent performer for the Wigan club. On his day, one of the most gifted ball distributors in the Fourth Division.

PETER HOUGHTON (FORWARD)

A strong, aggressive striker, who was unlucky with injuries in 1978-1979. Nevertheless, Peter scored 14 goals in 31 appearances, and he is expected to notch many more as Wigan make the push for Third Division football during the coming season.

TONY QUINN

A Liverpool-born forward who was a prolific goal scorer in last year's reserve side. Promoted to the League side 8 games ago and scored in each of the first 5.

GEORGE URQUHART (MIDFIELD)

Signed recently for a nominal fee from Ian McNeill's old club, Ross County, George is expected to be a talented addition to Wigan's midfield strength.

MICKY MOORE (FORWARD)

After serving Wigan well as a non-league player, Micky joined Port Vale in 1978, and played 13 games in the Vale shirt, without ever settling into a front-running position. Re-joined Wigan at the start of last season, and made 43 appearances scoring 10 goals.

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MEET THE MANAGERS

IAN McNEILL – WIGAN ATHLETIC

Ian began playing at Aberdeen before moving South into the English League where he gave valuable service to Leicester City, Brighton and Southend United.

His management career started at Ross County in the Scottish Highland League where his ability soon became apparent. In 1969 he succeeded Harry Leyland at Wigan and recruited a team, comprising mainly of fellow Scots, which took the Runners-up position in the first NPL season. Shortly after the start of the 1969/70 season Athletic were rocked by his resignation, and Gordon Milne was later appointed Player-Manager.

In Feb 1976 Brian Tiler vacated the Manager's office and in April of that year, Ian returned having resolved his earlier differences with the Club. He set about the rebuilding of the team and signed Maurice Whittle and later on Frank Corrigan and Peter Houghton, who moved from South Liverpool. His team won sufficient acclaim to push through Wigan's successful League application. His answer to the challenge of League football was to rely upon his NPL squad which repaid him by almost gaining instant promotion.

Ian's skillful handling of his side on a relatively tight budget was acknowledged last week when he was named as Bell's Manager of the Month in the 4th Division.

RAY WILLIAMS – NORTHWICH VICTORIA

A fractured leg in December 1977 has interrupted Ray's playing career for the past two years although he has persevered bravely in the hope that he may yet play again.

His goal-scoring talent is unquestionable, having scored 25 goals for Vics in the three months before his accident. In his 4½ years at Stafford he always topped the 30 mark and he scored 47 in the year Rangers won the NPL Championship and the F.A. Trophy. At Wembley Ray was chasing a hat-trick of hat-tricks having scored three times in the quarter and semi-final games. In fact he 'only' scored twice in Stafford's 3-0 Trophy win over Barnet.

For a second time he tried his luck in the League having failed to make his mark as a teenager and an amateur at Stoke. Port Vale signed him in 1972 and he was a first team regular for nearly 5 years before joining Vics in 1977. When Ray signed, Vics had 17 League games to play, during which he contributed 14 goals to the Championship challenge. Unfortunately even that was not enough and the title went to Boston United on goal average.

Ray was invited to take over as Manager eighteen months ago and has seen his side qualify for the Alliance League. Vics hectic season has kept Ray on his toes but he is extremely satisfied with a record of only three defeats in the League and none at all in the 15 Cup ties Vics have played this season.

A schoolteacher in Leek, Ray has another team to manage at home, ably assisted by an understanding wife, Carol, having three children; Andrew (7) and twins Mathew and Victoria (5).

MEET THE REFEREE

Today's referee is Mr. T.L. Morris of Leeds. Mr. Morris started refereeing in 1957 in Rotherham and progressed via local leagues to the Northern Premier League and then the Football League list. He was linesman for the European Cup Winners Cup in 1976, and refereed the Northern League Champions v Southern League Champions in 1976, and the Anglo-Italian competition in 1977. He has been a linesman in an F.A. Cup semi-final and refereed the F.A. Vase Final in 1978. A married man, he is a Lecturer in Business Studies at Leeds Polytechnic. He is also a qualified F.A. Coach and is interested in cricket and music.

THE SEASON SO FAR

NORTHWICH VICS

AUGUST

18 Redditch United	H
20 Bangor City	H
25 A.P. Leamington	A
27 Scarboro' APL Cup 1st Rd.	A

SEPTEMBER

1 Bath City	H
8 Yeovil Town	A
10 Telford United	A
15 Caernarvon T FAC 1st Q. Rd.	A
17 Caernarvon T FAC Replay.....	H
22 Worcester City	H
24 Scarborough APL Cup Replay.....	H
27 Scarborough APL Cup 2nd Rply....	H
29 Redditch Utd APL Cup 2nd Rd.....	H

OCTOBER

6 Formby FAC 2nd Q. Rd.	A
8 Formby FAC Replay	H
13 Maidstone United	H
20 Oswestry Tn. FAC 3rd Q. Rd.	A
22 Oswestry Tn. FAC 3rd Q.R. Rply....	H
27 Weymouth	H
30 Bangor City	A

NOVEMBER

3 Enderby FAC 4th Q. Rd.	A
10 Kettering Town.....	H
17 Scarborough.....	A
24 Nuneaton Boro FAC 1st Rd.	A
26 Nuneaton Boro FAC 1st Rd. Rply....	H

DECEMBER

1 Lye Town FAT 3rd Q. Rd	H
3 Telford Utd. APL Cup ¼ Final.....	H
8 Boston United	H

1-0	1556	Mayman
4-0	1671	Bailey, O'Neill, Smith (2)
2-2	752	Smith (2)
0-0	1561	
6-1	1677	Forshaw, Smith (3), O'Neill Bailey
1-1	1751	Forshaw
0-0	1529	
0-0	500	
4-0	2003	Bailey (2), Mayman, I. Jones (o.g.)
1-0	2134	K. Jones
0-0	1678	
2-0	1436	Smith, Wain
2-0	1570	Wilshaw, Bailey
1-1	750	Smith
2-0	1731	Smith, Bailey
0-2	1714	
1-1	1068	Bailey
4-1	1597	Bailey (2), Smith, O'Neill
0-0	1637	
3-0	806	Skillen (2), Braithwaite
1-0	846	Smith
2-2	1620	Williams, Wilshaw
1-2	3033	Smith
3-3	3817	Sromek, Smith (2)
3-0	4106	Nieman, Collier, Forshaw
2-0	1449	Nieman, Forshaw
2-2	1642	Sromek, Smith
0-1	2161	

WIGAN ATHLETIC

AUGUST

11 Stockport C. F.L.C. 1st Rd.	A
15 Stockport C. F.L.C. 1st Rd.	H
18 Darlington	A
22 Huddersfield Town	H
25 Stockport County	A

SEPTEMBER

1 Portsmouth	H
8 Bournemouth	A
15 York City	H
19 Hartlepool	H
22 Hereford United	A
29 Bradford City	H

OCTOBER

6 Torquay United	H
9 Huddersfield Town	A
13 Doncaster Rovers	A
20 Lincoln City	H
24 Rochdale	H
27 Newport County	A

NOVEMBER

3 Darlington	H
6 Rochdale	A
17 Scunthorpe	H
24 Blackpool F.A. Cup 1st Rd.	A
28 Blackpool F.A. Cup Replay	H

DECEMBER

1 Northampton	H
8 Walsall	A

1-2	6004	Houghton
0-0	7591	
2-2	2063	Hinnigan, Purdie
1-2	6927	Moore
2-1	3837	Gore, Houghton
1-2	8918	Moore
2-1	4390	Brownbill, 2
2-5	5990	Corrigan, Urquhart
2-1	4877	Houghton, 2
1-2	3891	Wright
4-1	8009	Gore, Hinnigan, Moore, Houghton
0-3	6541	
0-4	7871	
1-3	4169	MacIvor
2-1	5454	Houghton, 2
1-1	5036	Quinn
2-3	4910	Methven, Quinn
4-1	5001	Hinnigan, 2; Quinn
2-0	2936	Houghton, Quinn
4-1	4618	Hinnigan, Gore, Houghton, Quinn
1-1	11277	Methven
2-0	14589	Gore, Corrigan
0-0	6158	
1-1	5261	Quinn



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9. Graham SMITH
10. Terry BAILEY
11. Jim COLLIER
12. Dave HALL

v

WIGAN ATHLETIC

(Royal blue and white stripes)

1. John BROWN
2. Dave FRETWELL
3. Joe HINNIGAN
4. Tommy GORE
5. Colin METHVEN
6. Neil DAVIDS
7. Frank CORRIGAN
8. Jeff WRIGHT
9. Peter HOUGHTON
10. Tony QUINN
11. George URQUHART
12. Micky MOORE

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League Cup Runners up 1979**

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